

CAPSULE SUMMARY
BA-3073
House, 7530 Marks Avenue
Baltimore County
ca. 1905
Private

The single-family dwelling at 7530 Marks Avenue was constructed circa 1905 in the newly developed neighborhood historically known as Fullerton. The community of Fullerton, since absorbed within the Baltimore City suburb of Overlea, was established on agricultural land owned in the 1870s by A. Deemer. Designed in the Queen Anne style, the vernacular building is one of a few extant dwellings that were designed and constructed by the developers in the first decades of the 20th century. The commercial development of Belair Road, which bounded Fullerton to the northwest, has resulted in the loss and/or alteration of many of these imposing dwellings.

The wood frame dwelling is rectangular in shape with a front porch and a two-story rear addition. The narrow two-and-a-half-story building measures three bays wide on Marks Avenue and four bays deep, extending northwest to Belair Avenue. The structure is set on a raised foundation of poured concrete, and clad with asbestos shingles. The front gable roof, which is clad with asphalt shingles, is ornamented with open pedimented gables. The overhang of the roof is trimmed with an ovolo-molded cornice, smooth soffitt, and molded returns. An interior brick chimney with a corbeled cap is located at the center of the roof. Stylistically, the vernacular building draws from the Queen Anne style with its porch, molded cornice, and semi-circular arched openings.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. BA-3073

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic
other

2. Location

street and number 7530 Marks Avenue not for publication
city, town Baltimore vicinity
county Baltimore County

3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Real Estate Holding Business, Inc.
street and number 7527 Belair Road telephone
city, town Baltimore state MD zip code 21236-4141

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore County Courthouse tax map and parcel m. 81, p. 349
city, town Towson liber 10449 folio 478

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
☐ Other: _____

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<u>1</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	<u> </u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<u> </u> sites
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<u> </u> structures
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	<u> </u> objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	<u>1</u> Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
		<input type="checkbox"/> social	
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory
			<u>0</u>

7. Description

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Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one-paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The dwelling at 7530 Marks Avenue in Baltimore County was constructed circa 1905. The wood frame dwelling is rectangular in shape with a front porch and a two-story rear addition. The narrow two-and-a-half-story building measures three bays wide on Marks Avenue and four bays deep, extending northwest to Belair Avenue. The structure is set on a raised foundation of poured concrete, and clad with asbestos shingles. The front gable roof, which is clad with asphalt shingles, is ornamented with open pedimented gables. The overhang of the roof is trimmed with an ovolo-molded cornice, smooth soffitt, and molded returns. An interior brick chimney with a corbeled cap is located at the center of the roof. Stylistically, the vernacular building draws from the Queen Anne style with its porch, molded cornice, and semi-circular arched openings. The building is one of several freestanding single-family dwellings on Marks Avenue, a dead end street in the rural community of Fullerton.

EXTERIOR DESCRIPTION

The façade of the building, facing southeast to Marks Avenue, is three bays wide. A shed roof porch set on a brick pier foundation shelters the first story. Accessed by concrete steps, the porch is constructed of wood frame with asbestos cladding on the square posts and solid balustrade. The narrow side entry has a molded wood surround framing the paneled door. The rectangular transom holds a multi-light leaded window. The elongated openings next to the entry have 1/1 double-hung windows with wood sashes. The second story of the façade is symmetrically pierced by three standard sized window openings holding 1/1 double-hung wood windows. A single semi-circular opening, holding a 1/1 double-hung wood sash window, pierces the gable end of the façade.

The northeast elevation has asymmetrically placed window openings on each of the two stories, and a single fixed two-light window illuminating the raised basement. Access to the basement is via a metal bulkhead. The first and second stories have two 1/1 double-hung wood sash windows. The openings on the first story are elongated, while those on the second story are standard in size. The second story also has a single casement window with one light. All of the openings have wood surrounds and sills.

The northwest elevation of the original main block is largely obscured by a shallow gabled addition. Constructed of wood frame, the addition stands two stories in height on a concrete foundation. Over this addition, in the gable end of the main block, is a small louvered opening that provides ventilation to the attic. The first story of the addition has a single entry in the easternmost bay. This opening holds a door with nine lights over two vertical panels. The second story is equally pierced by two standard sized openings that hold 1/1 double-hung, wood sash windows. To the north of the addition is a concrete pad, surrounded by a wooden balustrade.

Two one-light fixed basement windows mark the southwest elevation of the main block. The first story has one elongated window with a 1/1 double-hung, wood sash window. A standard size 1/1 double-hung wood sash window symmetrically pierces the second story. The southwest elevation of the addition has two 1/1 windows

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Continuation Sheet

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on the first story. Like those in the main block, these openings are elongated. The second story of the addition has two openings. The 1/1 double-hung, wood sash window, located in the northernmost bay, is standard size. The 6/6 double-hung, wood sash window in the southernmost bay is slightly smaller than standard, suggesting it was a later addition.

The interior of the building was not accessible for survey.

8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history	
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

Specific dates ca 1905-1950

Architect/Builder Unknown

Construction dates 1905 ca

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

The single-family dwelling at 7530 Marks Avenue was constructed circa 1905 in the newly developed neighborhood historically known as Fullerton. The community of Fullerton, since absorbed within the Baltimore City suburb of Overlea, was established on agricultural land owned in the 1870s by A. Deemer. Designed in the Queen Anne style, the vernacular building is one of a few extant dwellings that were designed and constructed by the developers in the first decades of the 20th century. The commercial development of Belair Road, which bounded Fullerton to the northwest, has resulted in the loss and/or alteration of many of these imposing dwellings.

History of Fullerton

The history of the property in the early 20th century community of Fullerton dates back to the extension of Belair Road, which was initially laid in a northeasterly direction to the community of Bel Air from the City of Baltimore. As early as 1850, Belair Road was heavily developed and populated in the area immediately surrounding the city. Roughly ten miles away from the city, however, Belair Road was still not heavily populated. This area, where the road traversed White Marsh Run, was dotted by small farms, with only a very few buildings set close to the road. Primarily members of the Fitch and Fowler families inhabited this land in the mid-19th century. As the city of Baltimore expanded beyond its existing limits, this land became one of its primary suburbs.¹

By the third quarter of the 19th century, the Belair Road/White Marsh Run area was still without a name, and the nearest post office was located in the neighboring community of Parkville. Parkville, home to the Lavender Hill Post Office, was situated a short distance to the northwest along the Harford Turnpike. Nonetheless, the area was beginning to develop with oddly shaped lots and irregular street patterns.² The 1877 county map indicates the property destined to become Fullerton was owned and/or occupied by A. Deemer. As indicated by the map, the land had not yet been subdivided into smaller residential lots and was improved with only one residential building that was located at the southeast corner of Belair Road and Fullerton Avenue.

¹ J. C. Sidney, *Map of Baltimore City and County, Maryland, from Actual Surveys* (Baltimore, MD: J. M. Stephens, 1850), n.p.

² *Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland* (Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877), District Twelve.

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Between 1877 and 1915, Deemer's land was platted to include roughly twenty small residential lots. It was at this time that Marks Avenue was outlined to run parallel to Belair Road and then dead-end roughly halfway through the development known as Fullerton. Half of the residential lots created from Deemer's property fronted Belair Road, with the remaining lots on Marks Avenue. Deemer's dwelling at the corner of the property was retained during the subdivision and development of Fullerton. Surrounding neighborhoods that developed during this period include Overton, South Overlea, Overlea Park, and the Addition to Overlea.³

The Fullerton development has changed significantly since its original platting in the early 20th century. Nine of the Fullerton lots facing northwest on Belair Road were improved with residential structures by 1915. However, only one building from this period is extant. Located at 7531 Belair Road, this wood frame dwelling was substantially altered in the mid-20th century by the construction of a commercial storefront. This alteration is indicative of the transition of this part of Belair Road from a residential community to a mixed-use area bisected by a major transportation corridor. The contemporary residential buildings fronting Belair Road have been demolished in order to construct commercial properties and parking lots.

In contrast, the lots fronting Marks Avenue have remained largely residential in character. Between five and ten dwellings on the southeast half of the Fullerton development date to the first quarter of the 20th century. These freestanding dwellings are interspersed by lots that were not developed until the 1940s and 1950s. To the east of Fullerton, across Marks Avenue, the land is sparsely developed with few residential building. It was used primarily for agricultural purposes, and has since been developed as a recreational park for the community.

With the growth of the adjacent community of Overlea to the south, the historic neighborhood of Fullerton has been absorbed and has largely lost its individual context. Overlea has continued to develop residentially and commercially. As the City of Baltimore increased in size through annexation of its suburbs, Overlea's distance from the city diminished. Thus, Overlea is now less than one mile from the city limits. This 20th century development has resulted in a considerable loss of area's late 19th and early 20th century buildings and businesses. Within the last twenty years, the properties just north of those on Marks Avenue were demolished for the construction of a gas station/convenience store at the intersection Belair Road and Henry Avenue. The turn of the 21st century reveals continued development of this Baltimore suburb. A smaller community that has taken the name Fullerton has since developed along Belair Road, to the north of the Baltimore Beltway.

³ *Map of Baltimore County* (Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915), Districts Eleven and Fourteen.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland (Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877), District Twelve.
Hollifield, William. *Difficulties Made Easy: History of the Turnpikes of Baltimore City and County*. Cockeysville, MD: Baltimore County Historical Society, 1978.
Map of Baltimore County (Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915), Districts Eleven and Fourteen.
Offutt, E. Frances. *Baltimore County Landmarks*. Towson, MD: Baltimore County Public Library, 1971).
Sidney J. C. *Map of Baltimore City and County, Maryland, from Actual Surveys*. Baltimore, MD: J. M. Stephens, 1850.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property Less than one Acre
Acreage of historical setting Less than one Acre
Quadrangle name Baltimore East

Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The building at 7530 Marks Avenue in historic Fullerton (now Overlea) is located on Parcel 349, Lot 19, as denoted on Map 81, Grid 16. The property is bounded by Marks Avenue to the south and Belair Avenue to the north. The dwelling has been associated with this property since its construction circa 1904.

11. Form Prepared by

name/title	A. L. McDonald and L. V. Trieschmann, Architectural Historians		
organization	EHT Tracerics	date	August 30, 2000
street & number	1121 5th Street NW	telephone	202.393.1199
city or town	Washington	state	DC

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

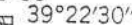
return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

NE
SON)

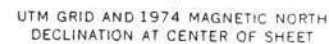
MARYLAND

SE/4 BALTIMORE 15' QUADRANGLE

5762 IV NW
(WHITE MARSH)



7531 BELAIR RO.
7534 MARKS ROAD
7532 MARKS ROAD
7530 MARKS ROAD
7524 MARKS ROAD





BA-3073

7530 MARKS AVE, OVERLEA

BALTIMORE COUNTY

TRACERIES

8/2000

MARYLAND SHPO

SOUTHEAST ELEVATION, LOOKING NORTH

1 OF 3



BA-3073

7530 MARKS AVE, OVERLEA

BALTIMORE COUNTY

TRACERIES

8/2000

MARYLAND SHPO

SOUTH CORNER, LOOKING NORTH

2 OF 3



BA-3073

7530 MARKS AVENUE, OVERLEA
BALTIMORE COUNTY
TRACERIES

8/2000

MARYLAND SHIP

NORTHWEST ELEVATION, LOOKING SOUTHEAST

3 OF 3